Firing across the border in Jammu and Kashmir

3367. SHRI VIRENDRA KATARIA:
SHRI S. M. KRISHNA:
SHRI SHIV CHARAN SINGH:
SHRI RAJ NATH SINGH:
SHRIMATI MALTI SHARMA:
SHRIMATI KAMLA SINHA:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that unprovoked firing is going on from across the border from Akhnoor to Kathua in Jammu sector for past few days and also in Kargil area;

(b) if so, the details of casualties of civilian and military personnel occurred in such firing; and

(c) the steps taken to control the situation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU): (a) While sporadic unprovoked small arms firings by Paklistani troops across the International Border and the Line of Control in J&K do take place, in Kargil sector, during the period from 9 to 13 April, 1997, Pakistani troops also resorted to artillery fire, not only on the forward defended locations but also in depth areas, including civilian targets in and around Kargil town.

(b) Since 1st January, 1997 to 30th April 1997, three personnel of the Army and Border Security Force were killed and six civilians and five Border Security Force personnel were wounded due to firing from Pakistani troops on the International Border from Akhnoor to Kathua. In the Kargil sector, two civilians were killed and four army personnel and eight civilians were wounded due to firing from Pakistani troops during this period.

(c) Appropriate and measured response is given by our troops to such unprovoked firings from Pakistani troops, taking due care that the incidents remain localised.

Accident of IAF Planes

3368. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Russian made IAF MIG-29 fighter air craft crashed near Pune recently killing the pilot;

(b) whether another MIG-21 crashed in Kangra district in Himachal Pradesh;

(c) if so, the number of Russian made MIG-29s that has been lost so far and the total number of aircrafts lost by IAF during the last three years;

(d) the estimated loss incurred by Government as a result thereof;

(e) the outcome of the inquiry conducted by the Government into the circumstances leading to accidents in Pune and Kangra; and

(f) the action taken by Government in the matter?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir.

(c) and (d) During the last three financial years, the IAF have lost 73 aircraft and suffered a provisional loss of Rs. 475.01 crores due to these accidents. 4 MIG-29 aircraft have been lost so far.

(e) and (f) The accidents at Pune and Kangra were mainly due to Technical Defects. A High Powered Committee under the Chairmanship of Scientific Advisor to Raksha Mantri has been constituted for indepth study of the accidents.

Creating new Artillery Division

3369. SHRI AKHILESH DAS: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether government propose to create a new Artillery Division as an important component of the Army; and

(b) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU): (a) and (b) Government have in principle agreed to reorganise some existing Artillery units into an Artillery Division with a view to improve their efficacy. This restructuring of artillery will ensure better coordination of fire power, surveillance and target acquisition resources during war, and more efficient coordination of joint training during the peace time.

Change in the Bond provision for NDA Cadets

3370. DR. MOHAN BABU: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the parents/guardians of candidates who are selected for training at NDA/IMA are required to sign a bond that Government would have no liability in case the cadets are disabled or even die during the training;

(b) whether it is a fact that there is no such provision in other democratic countries of the world; and

(c) whether Government propose to drop the provision?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU): (a) The parents of all cadets joining NDA/IMA are required to sign a certificate indemnifying the Government of India and the Armed Forces for any injuries/infirmity/death the cadets may suffer during the course of training.

(b) Ministry of Defence has no information on existence of such a provision in other democratic countries.

(c) There is no such proposal.

चिकित्सा क्षेत्र में रक्षा अनुसंधान प्रौद्योगिकी का उपयोग किया जाना

3371. **श्री अखिलेश दास:** क्या रक्षा मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या यह सच है कि सरकार रक्षा अनुसंधान प्रौद्योगिकी का उपयोग चिकित्सा क्षेत्र में भी करने पर विचार कर रही है;

(ख) क्या रक्षा अनुसंधान चिकित्सा उपकरण देश की आवश्यकता को पूरा करने में समर्थ है;

(ग) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है; और

(घ) उपकरण निर्माण कार्य कब तक आरंभ होने की संभावना है?

रक्षा मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (श्री एन० वी० एन० सोमू): (क) और (ख) देश में विकसित रक्षा प्रौद्योगिकियों की अतिरिक्त क्षमता का इस्तेमाल करने के वास्ते विज्ञान एवं प्रौद्योगिकी विभाग, कल्याण विभाग, राष्ट्रीय ग्रामीण विकास संस्थान तथा निजाम चिकित्सा विज्ञान संस्थान के सहयोग से जैव चिकित्सा प्रौद्योगिकी के लिए एक समिति का गठन किया गया है। इस समिति का उद्देश्य स्वदेशी उच्च प्रौद्योगिकी चिकित्सा उपकरणों का विकास और उत्पादन करना है ताकि आम आदमी सस्ते दामों पर खरीदकर इनका इस्तेमाल कर सकें।

(ग) और (घ) कैंसर का आरंभिक अवस्था में पता लगाने के लिए साइटोस्कैन प्रणाली और कर्डियों वस्कुलर स्ट्रेस टेस्ट प्रणाली का विकास कर लिया गया है तथा इनकी प्रौद्योगिकी उद्योग को अंतरित कर दी गई है। इनका निर्माण 1998/99 तक किया जाएगा। फोरोनरी कैथेटर्स, दृष्टि आई लेजर और कार्डियक स्टेंट का विकास कर लिया गया है तथा इनका चिकित्सीय परीक्षण किया जा रहा है। इन प्रणालियों का निर्माण सन् 1999/2000 में किए जाने की योजना है।

"पृथ्वी" प्रक्षेपास्त्र का परीक्षण

3372. **श्री रामजीलाल:** क्या रक्षा मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या हाल ही में किया गया "पृथ्वी" प्रक्षेपास्त्रों का परीक्षण सफल रहा है;

(ख) "पृथ्वी" प्रक्षेपास्त्र पर अब तक कुल कितने परीक्षण किए गये हैं और सेना में शामिल करने से पूर्व इसके अभी और कितने परीक्षण किए जाने हैं;